



BADGER STATE Smoke Signals



Serving Amateur Radio in Wisconsin

Published Monthly Since 1969

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Vol. 18 No. 2

Baraboo, Wisconsin
206th Consecutive Monthly Issue

February 1987

Return To: Kenneth A. Ebner K9EN
822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901

Packet Radio Helps Disaster Drill

By Kent Helman, W9LZQ
1063 Fairfield Street
Onalaska, WI 54650

Amateurs from Dane, Vernon, La Crosse and Trempealeau counties had an opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities of Packet Radio once again during the recent Genoa nuclear plant emergency drill held December 2, 1986.

This was the second such exercise in the state in which Packet was involved, the first being the Point Beach exercise last year.

Ray Buhr, AA9M, coordinated the exercise, in cooperation with members of the A.R.E.S. group from La Crosse county. Ray is EC in Vernon county.

Amateurs involved in the exercise were: Jim Anderson, N9AGH, Madison (located at the State Emergency Government Office in Madison); Ray Buhr, AA9M, Viroqua; Duane Fruechte, W9HWQ, Trempealeau;

Al Skwartz, W9QHN, Trempealeau; Rick Williams, KV9U, Onalaska; and Kent Helman, W9LZQ.

Three Packet stations were set up to handle the exercise. N9AGH handled the station at the State Emergency Government Office in Madison. Another station was manned by AA9M and W9LZQ at the Viroqua headquarters for the exercise, and a third station was manned by KV9U, W9HWQ and W9QHN at Stoddard, WI, which was utilized as a public information outlet.

"The Stoddard site presented us with special problems," reported Kent (W9LZQ). "We had to literally get out of a hole at Stoddard, since the station there was not able to use any existing path to get out of the valley. I had checked the weekend before the exercise and determined there was no way to do it unless we could establish another digipeat link. So we hastily threw together a mobile digipeater, parked it a couple of blocks away from the school where the operation took place, and it worked flawlessly!" The 'hastily' thrown

together digipeater has now become a permanent mobile digipeater for A.R.E.S. operations in the La Crosse area.

Jim, N9AGH, expressed a concern that it is too bad we could not have handled more traffic during the exercise. However, the point was made that Amateur Packet Radio is a viable alternative (back-up) in case phone lines go down. Most all of the messages into the headquarters office at Viroqua were by telephone line. The Packet station at Viroqua was capable of being used for the printer. A Tandy model 100 computer was used with a battery operated Kantronics KPC-2 and a Santec HT.

Utilization of Packet Radio was impressive, with local and federal officials involved in the exercise. Duane, W9HWQ, reports that one official asked him if it would be possible to contact Houston County, Minnesota (directly across the river from Genoa). Duane promptly connected with a Houston County Packet station. Duane commented that, "He was impressed, to say the least!" Ray, AA9M, reports that the federal officials observing the Packet operations at Viroqua asked many questions about the mode and took a high degree of interest in its use.

A special thanks goes to Jim, N9AGH, who incorporated Packet into this drill, and without whose help this test and public exposure of Amateur Packet capability would not have taken place.

Shown in the photo at left are Al Skwartz, W9QHN; Rick Williams, KV9U; and Duane Fruechte, W9HWQ, operating Packet Radio from the information center at Stoddard during the Genoa Nuclear Power Plant Disaster Exercise.

1987 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY

The annual Wisconsin QSO Party, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, will be held from 1800Z March 15 until 0100Z March 16, 1987. The March issue of Badger State Smoke Signals will carry the full list of rules, a list of multipliers, and a summary sheet, courtesy of WARAC.



Photo courtesy Vernon County Broadcaster

Badger State Smoke Signals

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Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor
Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Treasurer

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Subscriptions:

1 year	(12 issues)	\$7.50
2 years	(24 issues)	14.00
3 years	(36 issues)	\$20.00

Send check or money order to:

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SWAPFEST AND OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS

Sunday, February 1, 1987. The Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs HAMFEST - '87, at the Odeum Exposition Center in Villa Park, IL. Doors open at 8:00 A.M. 400 flea market tables - 85 commercial booths - All in one building - Acres of parking - Reserved flea market tables - Special computer section - Easy access for sellers. Tickets: \$4.00 in advance or \$5.00 at the door. Send S.A.S.E. to Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs, P.O. Box QSL, Wheaton, IL 60189

Saturday, March 7, 1987. Swapfest sponsored by W9HHX, Milwaukee School of Engineering Radio Club. 1121 N. Milwaukee St., Milwaukee, WI. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Admission \$2.00. Tables \$3.00. Limited table availability - reservations recommended, W9HHX Fest, P.O. Box 644, Room C-6, Milwaukee, WI 53201-644. Phone (414) 277-7251.

Saturday, March 14, 1987. Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, Swapfest "87". Kaukauna High School, Kaukauna, WI. Directions: Hwy 41, exit Hwy 55 South to Main St. in Kaukauna. Doors open at 7 a.m. for sellers and 8 a.m. for others. Free parking. Amateur Radio Exams. (see Testpoint for contact details.) Admission \$1.00. Tables \$5.00. (By reservation only.) SASE to Don Baker, NB9J, 621 W. 7th St., Kaukauna, WI 54130.

1800Z March 15, 1987 to 0100Z March 16, 1987. The Wisconsin QSO Party sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club.

Sunday, March 22, 1987. Tri-County Amateur Radio Clubs Hamfest at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Jefferson, WI. Amateur Radio Exams. (see Testpoint for contact details.) Food and Refreshments. Admission: \$2.50 advance or \$3.00 at the door. 6 ft. tables: \$3.00 advance or \$4.00 at the door. Doors open at 7 a.m. for sellers only. SASE to Bob Barker, 724 Burdick, Milton, WI 53563.

Sunday, April 5, 1987. Madison swapfest sponsored by the Madison Area Repeater Association. Madison, WI. See ad elsewhere in BSSS for full details and map.

Saturday, May 2, 1987. Ozaukee Radio Clubs Swapfest in Cedarburg, WI. Contact O.R.C. Swapfest Committee, 101 East Clay St., Saukville, WI 53080.

Saturday, July 18, 1987. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Clubs Swapfest "87" in Oak Creek, WI.

Sunday, October 25, 1987. Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs Ham, Computer, and Video Fest at Waukesha, WI. Contact: KMRA, 313 Hillview Circle, Waukesha, WI 53188

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas.

Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages, and/or we can include your flyers. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, and/or for including flyers, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

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CLUB MEETINGS

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

(W9YT - UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON)

Regular meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of every month while school is in session, in B314 Electrical Engineering Building.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.
(STEVENS POINT)

Regular club meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month.

EAU CLAIRE A.R.C.

The Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Parks and Recreation Building at Oxford and First Streets in Eau Claire. Meeting time is 7:30 P.M. Hams and guests are welcome. Travelers in the area are invited to use the club's wide-area repeater K9UXP on 146.31/91.

FOUR LAKES A.R.C. (MADISON, WI)

RED CROSS BUILDING, 4860 Sheboygan Ave, Madison, WI., first and third Tuesday each month.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Regular meetings a 7pm, the third Monday of the month at Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54911. 424-735-6294 for info.

GREEN BAY MIC & KEY CLUB

The Green Bay Mic & Key Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the American Red Cross Bldg., corner of Danz and Deckner in Green Bay.

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Green Lake Town Hall located at the intersection of county highways K and N.

KETTLE MORaine RADIO AMATEURS

All meetings are held on the SECOND (2nd) Friday of each month.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS

First Wednesday; 7 p.m. at City Hall, 817 Franklin St, Manitowoc, WI.

Second Wednesday; Red Cross Building, 1816 Washington St., Manitowoc, WI.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

All regular meetings of MRAC scheduled for 1986 at Wauwatosa Savings and Loan Building, 7500 West State Street, will be held on the second Thursday of the month.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Meetings held every second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Saukville Community Center

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Regular meetings are held at 7:30 P.M., on the first Wednesday of each month in the Onalaska Community Center in Onalaska, WI.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Regular club meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 P.M. at the Sheboygan Red Cross/Boy Scout building located at 2032 Erie Ave. in Sheboygan.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings held at Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, on first Wednesday of the month. Auctions held at March and October meetings.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at St. Francis Savings, 9330 W. Greenfield Ave., at 8:00 P.M.

THE WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION, WAUSAU)

Holds regular monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The location varies, but information is available on the 146.04/64 repeater in Wausau.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO, WI)

All regular meetings of YIARC are at the Baraboo Civic Center. Meetings start at 7:30 P.M. Monday meetings are held in room 20. All others in Room 25.

Meetings dates for 1987 are: Tuesday, Feb. 17; Wednesday, Mar. 18; Thursday, Apr. 16; Monday, May 18; Tuesday, June 16; Wednesday, July 15; Thursday, August 13; Monday, September 14;

Tuesday, October, 13; Wednesday, November 11; and Thursday, December 10.

Let us know of your club meeting dates, and we will let others know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.

THE TEST POINT

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area.

February 7, 1987	Milwaukee, WI
February 21, 1987	Medina, MN (Robbinsdale ARC)
February 21, 1987	Waukesha, WI
March 14, 1987	Kaukauna, WI
March 21, 1987	St. Paul, MN
March 22, 1987	Tri-County Swapfest Jefferson, WI
April 4, 1987	Milwaukee, WI
April 18, 1987	Minneapolis, MN
May 16, 1987	Robbinsdale, MN
June 6, 1987	St. Paul, MN
June 21, 1987	Stevens Point, WI
July 18, 1987	Minneapolis, MN
August 9, 1987	St. Cloud, MN
August 29, 1987	Annandale, MN (Robbinsdale ARC)
September 19, 1987	St. Paul, MN
September 26, 1987	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
October 17, 1987	Minneapolis, MN
November 7, 1987	Richfield, MN (Robbinsdale ARC)
December 5, 1987	Stevens Point, WI
December 19, 1987	St. Paul, MN

Monthly, First Sat. Racine, WI
Monthly, Third Sat. Loves Park, IL

General rules for all examinations:

All examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs may permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor to find out if they allow walk-ins.)

To register for these examinations, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from the FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 22¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group. Remember-- you must file at least 30 days in advance unless otherwise indicated.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$4.35 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. As in the past, a copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE METRO AREA TEST TEAM - MRAC/VEC

Saturday, February 7, 1987 - 9:00 a.m.
Saturday, April 4, 1987 - 9:00 a.m.

Room 256, Wauwatosa East High School at 74th and Milwaukee Avenue - use the east (74th Street) entrance. Note: 74th Street is a one-way south street.

Bring your original license and a good photocopy, a pen, and \$4.25 for the exam fee. Walkins accommodated if time permits.

Register in advance on a Postal Service 14 cent postcard; print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send to:

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc.
N50 W16328 Pin Oak Court
Menomonee Falls WI 53051.

MILWAUKEE VOLUNTEER CORE GROUP - DeVry VEC

The Milwaukee Volunteer Core Group will be giving Amateur Radio examinations as follows:

February 21, 1987 - Rooms S0207 and S0225 at Waukesha County Technical Institute.

March 22, 1987 - At Tri-County Swapfest in Jefferson, Wisconsin.

Walk-ins are welcome at all exam sites. Free coffee served only at WCTI.

Exams begin at 9:00 a.m. at all sites. Novice thru Extra exams will be given.

Exams for shut-ins given by appointment only.

Please bring your current Amateur license to the test session; the examiners are required to look at it.

To pre-register, send a post card with your name, address, phone number, date of test session, and grade of license you wish to be tested for to: Syl Janczak, WD9JKZ, 3127A West Madison, Milwaukee WI 53215.

March 14, 1987, Kaukauna, WI
Fox Cities ARC Swapfest

Contact: Larry Siebers, KD9IA
7077 Weyers RD,
Freedom, WI 54130
414-788-3823

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI - VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

Contact: Gene Santoski, K9UTQ
1220 18th St., So.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 423-6368

STEVENS POINT, WI - BLUE TOP INN

Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW
644 Portage St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 344-1182

TOMAH, WI - VA BUILDING

Contact: Bill Bastian, N9BOE
206 E. Logan St.
Tomah, WI 54660
(608) 372-7293

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

First Saturday of each month except during summer and the Christmas holidays.

Exams are given at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine WI 53405.

Bring your original license and a photocopy of it; also bring some form of photo identification, such as a Wisconsin photo driver's license, and a check for \$4.35 payable to ARRL/VEC.

Pre-registration at least 40 days before the test is desired, but walkins are permitted and will be accommodate until the extra supply of exams is exhausted.

Send pre-registration to: William R. Fircho#, Jr., N9DMP, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha WI 53140.

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban Library on North Second Street in Loves Park, IL.

Contact: Gene Melton, AK9N
124 S. Chicago Ave. #2
Rockford, IL
(815) 229-7249

Minnesota tests - contact information:

Gopher/Minneapolis ARC:	Robbinsdale ARC:
Avery Finn, KØHLA	Ron Schultz, NAØU
P.O. Box 53	6308 Peacedale Ave.
Hopkins, MN 55343	Edina, MN 55424
(612) 448-5384	(612) 920-7473

St. Paul ARC:	St. Cloud ARC:
Jay Bellows, KØQBE	P.O. Box 141
997 Portland Ave.	St. Cloud, MN 56302
St. Paul, MN 55104	Leonard E. Carlson
(612) 222-7253	(612) 252-0414

LOCATIONS:

University of Minnesota Moos Hall, Washington and Union Streets, Minneapolis.

Medina Ballroom, Midwinter Madness Hamfest, Medina, Minnesota.

(continued on page 15)

WNA (continued from page 13)

I hope that many people will join these ranks and keep that spirit high.

We still need people to fill a few voids which we have. We need a net control for Thursday nights and 9RN reps for Thursdays, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, to help give W9CXY a rest. Anyone interested, just let me know and we'll get you all set up.

We've had a little problem lately in getting traffic up to the SSB nets for those who do not come up to SSB themselves. I know there are a lot of us who can do this service, so let's try to do a little better in this area - we don't want to lose these people because they can't get their traffic passed and go off in a huff and never come back. We want to keep people in and add to the ranks, so let's help out when we can.

I'd like to thank all of you for your support through '86, and hope for your continued support in '87. A Happy New Year, and keep that WINning spirit flying high in 1987.

BADGER EMERGENCY NET

Lisa Harper, KA9RII, Net Manager
514 Fall Street
Eau Claire WI 54703

The first of January is here, and I'm not sure where December went. We had a good December, with lots of activity and a high percentage of traffic cleared. Unfortunately, however, the downward trend continues. Of checkins, traffic offered, and traffic cleared, only traffic cleared exceeded last year's stats. In all fairness, 1985 seems to have been a banner year for the BEN; however, the stats for 1986 are below 1984 also.

There has been much written about the decline in the number of active traffic handlers. Some suggest that one of the reasons is that a good number of new people entering Amateur Radio are more involved with the digital modes. Some say the bands have been so lousy that many Hams just don't operate as much any more. It's true that a goodly share of the active traffic handlers are "old-timers" -- listen to any net and count the number of "W" calls that check in.

We can't do anything about poor propagation, so how do we get the "new blood" interested in traffic handling, and bring some of the "old-timers" out of retirement? I really don't know.

I do know why I love traffic handling, and I can explain it very simply: the other traffic handlers. I feel a real closeness to these people. When I get ready to check into a net, I know that all my friends will be there.

After passing a piece of traffic, there's always time to ask about a new grandchild, or a check-up with the doctor, or a vacation, or last weekend's trip to the lake. I feel so darn GOOD when I check in and the net manager says "There's a good one" or "I don't know what we'd do without you."

I get some really neat mail, too. People I meet on the nets send long letters about themselves and pictures and QSL cards. We exchange information about our lives and families and truly become friends. About 25% of the phone

calls I get are long-distance; Hams that I work on the nets who somehow get my phone number. These people are no longer Net Control, Region 5 Transmit, Illinois Receive, station Lima, or TCC Director; they are FRIENDS.

The ARRL was formed a long time ago, with passing messages in an orderly fashion a primary goal: The American Radio RELAY League. The very frequencies we operate on were assigned to Amateur Radio because of our history as being a public service oriented hobby. Some people don't think traffic handling is important; that the birthday greetings and the "I'm fine.. how are you?" type of messages most often exchanged on nets are a waste of time (after all, "they" could be using the frequency for a more important QSO).

I wonder if any of these non-traffic handlers ever delivered a message to a mother or wife from a man in the military, a son or husband they haven't heard from in two months? I wonder if they ever delivered an "all ok" message from Mexico City, or listened to a daughter sobbing on the phone when she calls and BEGS you to please try to find out if her parents in El Salvador are alive? I doubt it.

People who frequent traffic nets spend countless hours being "bored", training themselves to be disciplined, accurate message handlers. We put up with, and most often overcome, poor or non-existent band conditions, QRM, malicious interference and other irritations that "go with the territory." We consider what we do important, and we need more help.

It doesn't matter if you're male, female, young, old, or handicapped. There's a job for everyone who wants to help. The Section Traffic Manager and all the Net Managers are only too happy to hear new calls checking in. Answering your questions (yes, even "dumb" questions) is what we're here for. We have loads of material from the ARRL that we'd love to send you, if we only knew that you were interested.

Traffic nets are not people who just send in a report at the end of the month; we want to hear your questions and opinions and gripes. We want to teach newcomers to become good traffic handlers. The National Traffic System and the Wisconsin Nets Association are good, dedicated PEOPLE, not just organizations. Give us a try -- you just might make a new friend or two.

From ARNS and other questionable sources.

Carl, KB9--, thinks that a fish should fall for a fancy \$20.00 lure just because he did.

Pete, KD9--, poses the following question: Can you trust a dermatologist with warts.

Mark, KA6---, claims that everything east of the San Andreas Fault will eventually plunge into the Atlantic Ocean!

Richard, KA9---, has left to take an advanced mathematics class on how to add and subtract without using a calculator.

Our thanks to the many clubs and their bulletins for portions of the information presented. Badger State Smoke Signals will be pleased to exchange bulletins and information with your club. Please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Due to the early printing deadline for Badger State Smoke Signals this month, we are unable to have the minutes of the January YTARC meeting. We will be back to a more normal schedule next month.

The Yellow Thunder ARC is planning on an "Open House" on Thursday, February 5, 1987 to demonstrate and explain Amateur Radio to the public. This will then be followed by a series of Novice classes beginning on Thursday, February 19, 1987.

If you can help with the "Open House" or the classes please get in contact with Art Kleefisch, W9WSS, in Baraboo, Ken Ebner, K9EN, in Portage, or Steve Schwoegler, WB9RNL, in Wisconsin, Dells.

YTARC BIRTHDAY:

Art Escher WA9WUS March 12
Fred Becker W9KKM March 17

SENTENCE SERMON:

With 168 hours in the week, and more of these available than ever for doing as one pleases, it does seem a few of these should be set aside for the cultivation of the spiritual life.

Brighten the corner where you are, but don't forget there are other corners that need brightening.

The next meeting of the YTARC will be held in room 25 of the Baraboo Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. on February 17, 1987.

The Program will be presented by Brad Pointon of Baraboo. He will give a demonstration of an IFR 1200S service monitor.

Bring your VHF/UHF handheld, mobile, or base to have it checked out free of charge. We will check your radio for:

1. Frequency
2. Deviation
3. Power output
4. Receive sensitivity
5. Sub audible tones on TX and RX
6. Spectrum analyzer

He also will have Bird wattmeter to check your mobile antennas if needed.

Members and non-members are welcome to come to the meetings of the YTARC.

Pete, W9---, Said he spent \$50.00 at the supermarket the other day, and the clerk asked him if it was to go or if he was going to eat it here.

I called Dave, WA9---, to talk to him but had no luck. They said he was putting AstroTurf in the bird cage.

Mary, W9---, Reports that a bird in hand is safer than one overhead.

HAMCANDID

A voice familiar to repeater users in the Madison area comes from this guy: Gary Muskat, N9DRA, of Middleton. Gary was first licensed in June, 1979, as KA9EUZ. He upgraded to Technician in Milwaukee in September, 1982. Gary is an alternate net control station for the Baraboo 28/88 Sunday morning (10 a.m.) Swap Net, and is alternate NCS for the Dane County ARES Net. k9zz photo.



ADVERTISING INFORMATION

With our change to publication by offset printing, we can now accept display ads. The basic information is as follows:

AD SIZES

FULL PAGE: 10.5" wide and 13.0" high

HALF PAGE: 10.5 by 6.5 or 5.25 by 13.0

1/4 PAGE: 10.5 by 3.25 or 5.25 by 6.5

1/8 PAGE: 5.25 by 3.25

BUSINESS CARD: 3.5 by 2.0

AD RATES

FULL PAGE

\$60.00 (1 time)	\$54.00 (2X)	\$51.00 (3X)
\$48.00 (4X)	\$45.00 (6X)	\$42.00 (12X)

HALF PAGE

\$36.00 (1 time)	\$32.40 (2X)	\$30.60 (3X)
\$28.80 (4X)	\$27.00 (6X)	\$25.20 (12X)

QUARTER PAGE

\$20.00 (1 time)	\$18.00 (2X)	\$17.00 (3X)
\$16.00 (4X)	\$15.00 (6X)	\$14.00 (12X)

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\$12.00 (1 time)	\$10.80 (2X)	\$10.20 (3X)
\$9.60 (4X)	\$9.00 (6X)	\$8.40 (12X)

BUSINESS CARDS

\$5.35 (1 time)	\$4.82 (2X)	\$4.55 (3X)
\$4.28 (4X)	\$4.01 (6X)	\$3.75 (12X)

These rates are based on camera-ready copy. For more information, contact Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901, or call (608) 742-3560.



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FANCY 440 MACHINE GOING UP IN MAD CITY

Pat, KD9UU, is ready - or maybe has, by this time - to provide Madison area Hams with a first class 440 MHz FM repeater. Here's the info Pat sent us, copied on Packet by WB9UQT here in Baraboo:

INPUT: 448.675 OUTPUT: 443.675
REPEATER: Yaesu commercial grade UHF repeater and TX/RX duplexer.
CONTROLLER: ACC™ Model RC-85.
FREQUENCY AGILE LINK RADIO: Drake UV-3 (operates on 2M, 220, and 440).
ANTENNA: Hustler G6-440.
ANTENNA HEIGHT: More than 1100 feet above sea level.

The repeater will be open to all licensed Amateurs.

The controller has many features; here are a few:

- * 190 user-loadable phone numbers.
- * 10 emergency autodial phone numbers.
- * Over 25 IDs, tail messages, etc., provided by synthesized speech.

* Autopatch and possibly reverse patch (reverse patch allows licensed Hams to call the repeater telephone number on the telephone, causing the repeater to key up and announce a caller.)

* Optional phone number readback (no more wrong numbers!)

* Talking S-meter - the repeater will tell you what your signal strength into the system is.

* Site alarm messages in voice.

* Two-tone paging (not being planned to use.)

The Drake UV-3 2M/220/440 radio, which will be used as a frequency-agile link, will make it possible to link to many repeaters in the Southern Wisconsin area.

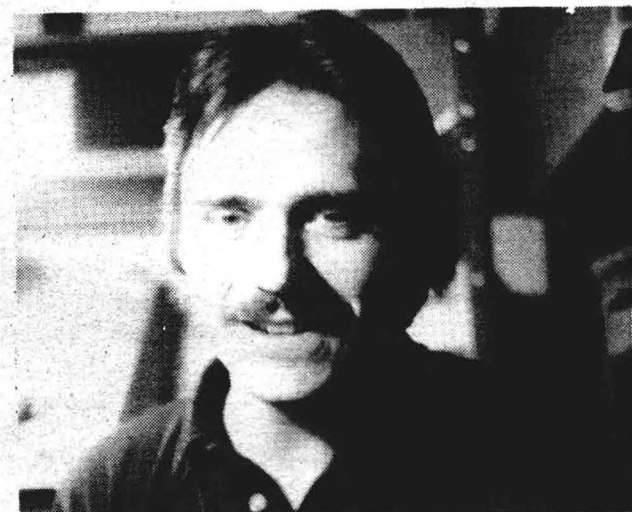
The repeater will be available for emergency communications use, including, of course, RACES and ARES. Emergency power will be available if needed.

Pat is doing this himself, and he says his primary concerns are recovering costs of the telephone line, electricity and insurance.

Pat is looking for those warm bodies who would be interested in giving a technical hand with all this. You can talk with

him on Packet; his Packet station is on 24 hours a day, or you can leave him a message on the W9WI-1 Packet Radio bulletin board in Madison. If writing's your thing, he's in the 1986 or newer Callbook.

Pat extends a special thanks to Joe Imilkowski, W9CWD, for helping arrange a good site for the new system, and to WD9DHI for a big helping hand.



Pat, KD9UU



On January 7, 1987 at 7:40 p.m., the regular monthly meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Craig Goldbeck. Minutes of the December meeting were approved as read from the Badger State Smoke Signals. The Treasurer's report was approved.

37/97 Report: Battery maintenance was performed during the month of December, as well as some general tune up of the repeater. It is the recommendation of the repeater committee that we start replacing the repeater over a period of time as money permits.

VE Report: Exams that were held in December were very successful, all people who took an exam passed.

Old Business: "Ham of the Year" has been selected and will be presented with the award at our Christmas Dinner on Saturday, January 17.

obtained; it was suggested that we get prices and styles locally. This will be done and reviewed at a later meeting.

New Business: Due to a conflict with the Onalaska Community Center, it was necessary for us to change our meeting night to the first Tuesday of the month in order to continue to use the center as our meeting place. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we make the switch. Starting with the first Tuesday of February, Tuesdays will be our regular meeting night. There was a change to the Standing Rules of the constitution to reflect this change.

There was a brief discussion on incorporating the club. The decision was to not incorporate due to earlier study that was done.

Elections were held for Officers for 1987. The following people were unanimously elected:

President - Gary Webb, NI9V
Vice-President - Charlie Burch, KA9UUK
Secretary-Treasurer - Dick Low, KØJYB

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.
Total members present was 29.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg A. Miller, Sec. Treas. RARC

Congratulations to Van Elston (WA9FIO) on being chosen "Ham of the Year" for 1986.

The award is given to the Amateur Radio Operator in the La Crosse area who has devoted the most time and energy to improving Amateur Radio in this area.

Van is very deserving of this award thru his efforts in the improvements in the 37/97 repeater while serving on the repeater committee, and all the help that he has given to all who needed it in establishing Packet Radio in this area, as well as being active at all the club meetings.

Congratulations, Van!

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg A. Miller
Craig Goldbeck
Scott Neader
Bruce Bjerstedt
Walter Altus
Jim Burcum
Phil Long
Knute Knutson
Hugh Barker
Charlie Burch
Rick Williams
Gary Webb
Herman Ludvik
Bill Winder
John Young
Ray Wakeen
Dallas C. Miller
L. F. (Nook) Bentzen
Ken Weigel
Van Elston
Bob Pluntz
Bob Anderson
Art Osborn
Bill Wood
Dick Low
Al Reinholz
Al Hoffman
Bob Kathan

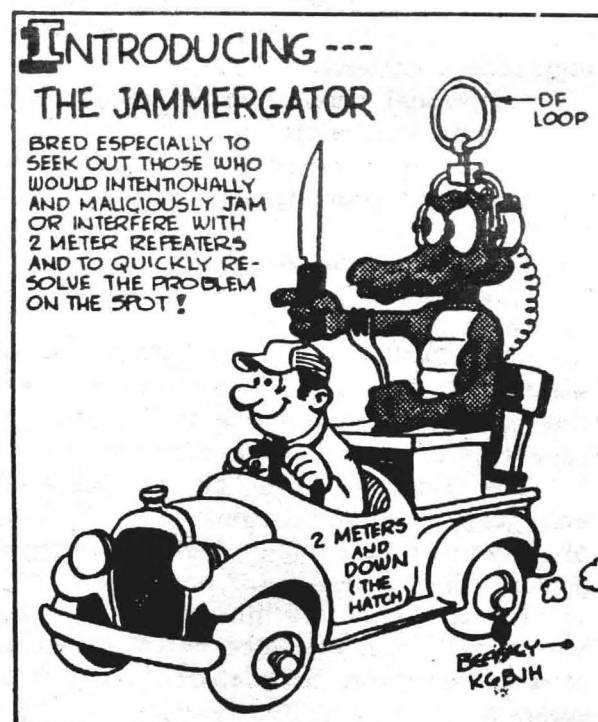
KA9FOZ
N9ETD
KA9FOX
K9CUT
WD9GCR
K9LBX
KA9RLI
W9SFL
KAØEJZ
KA9UUK
KV9U
NI9V
W9HJV
K9EGQ
W9KAZ
WA9HHM
K9LEC
K9EGO
N9CDT
WA9FIO
WD9FKV
KD9QY
WAØVHO
WØJDC
WB9VYI
KØJYB
N9FZE
KA9VWW

GUESTS PRESENT

Tim Stalbel
Bryan O'Brien

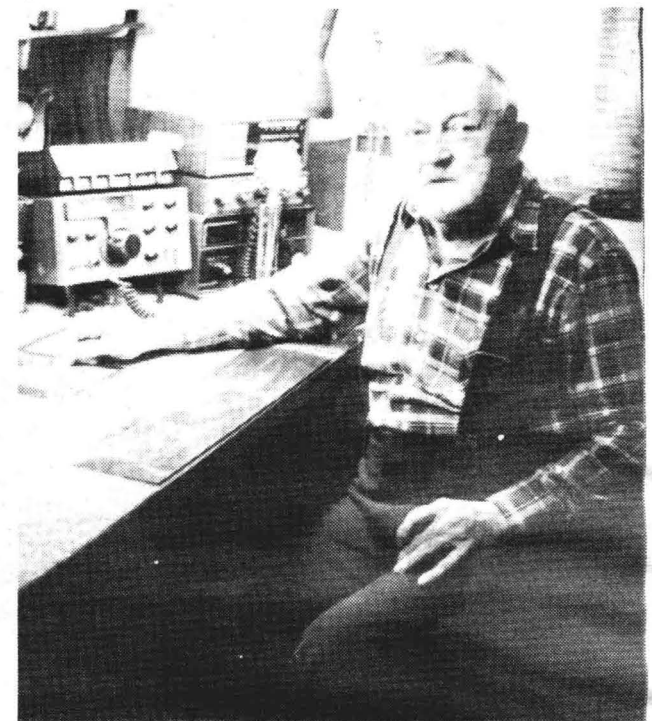
KA9SJI
Phil Weigel

Ben Weigel



Thanks Worldradio

HAMCANDID



Harv Hamer, K9YHO, sometimes known as "Radio Free West Baraboo", is a familiar voice to many Badger State Hams. He's been licensed since 1939, but his interest in radio and electronics began earlier; he was building receivers in 1934. During World War II, he taught radio at Patterson Field in Ohio. He's a Past Chairman and is currently on the Board of Wisconsin Chapter 55 of the QCWA, and is past President and one of the founders of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club. He's active on HF SSB and 2-meter FM. Some say he is one of only a few who have actually seen Vran Remah, J8XGN, the reclusive scientist who writes to us yearly. k9zz photo.

MILWAUKEE VOLUNTEER CORE GROUP

EXAM RESULTS

Syl Janczak, WD9JKZ
Core Group Leader
3127A West Madison
Milwaukee, WI 53215

On Saturday, January 10, 1987, the Milwaukee Volunteer Core Group, under the sponsorship of the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, conducted exams during their swapfest at the Waukesha Expo Center. Congratulations are in order for the following:

Theresa Ward, N9FZU, General to Advanced with code credit

Rauland Stevens, WA9NMK, Technician to General

Burgess Coulter, K9ETX, General to Advanced

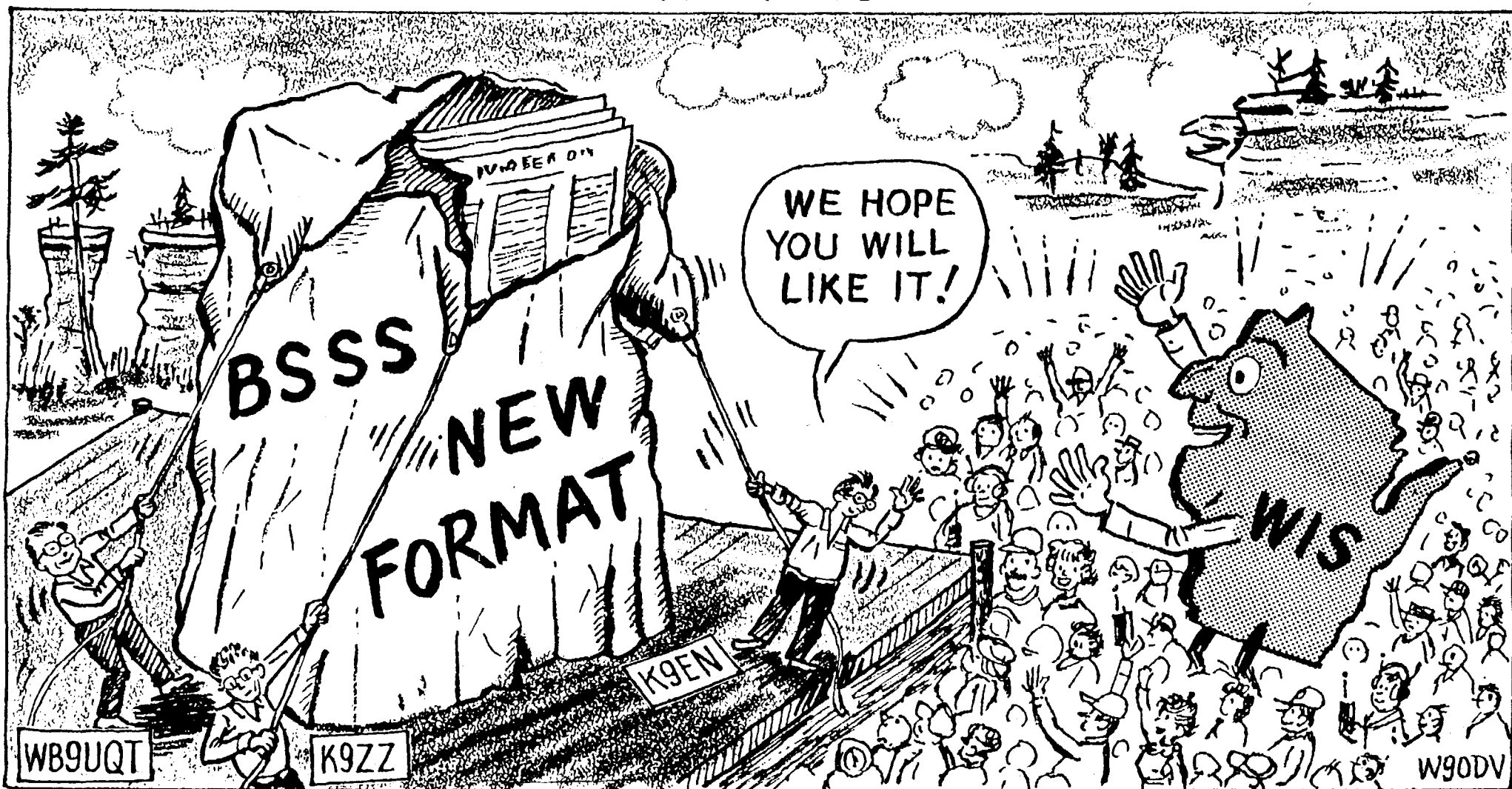
Susan Pari, KA9VYU, Novice to General

John Gunderson, KA9TIP, Novice to General

Kevin Flanagan, no license to Novice

Bruce Manser, no license to Novice

"HERE IT IS"



A Big Wack at Packet

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Packet Radio autoforwarding may soon link the world's continents with HF networking. Two Wisconsin stations are helping make this dream a reality.

Although the FCC rejected the ARRL's request for auto control in the HF bands, it did suggest that the League apply for a Special Temporary Authority (STA) to experiment with the proposal on a small scale. Current FCC rules allow automatic control for Packet Radio stations above 50 MHz only because of a few unanswered technical questions. A networking experiment, called SKIPNET, is planned, which should provide those answers, as well as formulate practical procedures.

A Gateway, an interchange point, is too vague a term for SKIPNET designation, so other words have been defined: Teleport, Cluster and Skylight.

TELEPORT

Those HF multiport facilities primarily engaged in long-haul domestic and inter-

national relay. Although ionospheric long-haul communications is emphasized in this plan, teleports will also use terrestrial line-of-sight intercommunications between clustered stations and for connection to local networks.

In the future, teleports will also include satellite and meteor-scatter positions.

The Wisconsin Teleport station is WD9DHI in Cedarburg.

CLUSTER

A group of nearby stations associated to perform a related communication function. This plan recognizes that individual stations cannot accommodate positions that cause a larger communications facility through the cooperation of several stations with sufficient geographical separation to permit simultaneous operation.

Three stations: WD9DHI in Wisconsin, W9TD (Hoffman Estates, Illinois) and W9ZRX (Westfield, Indiana) form the "WINDY" Cluster.

SKYLIGHT

In this plan, certain stations that serve primarily as an intermediary between local area network on VHF/UHF/SHF radio and long-haul communications media. Although a single port now, in the future it may include satellite and meteor scatter. Skylight is preferred to the phrase "HF/VHF Gateway." The Skylight station in Wisconsin is W9ZBD in Rhinelander.

Several Skylights and clusters of Teleports are scattered around the U.S. to make up the initial SKIPNET. They will be challenged with three missions:

1. To provide main route relay of packets or packet messages between HF packet relay stations throughout the United States at distances greater than roughly 300 miles (shorter distances being served by VHF/UHF).

2. To provide entry points for gateway stations serving the function of bridges between HF and VHF/UHF packet local-area networks wherever they are needed in the country, and

3. To provide entry points for international packet traffic.

The flexibility of SKIPNET, such as matching frequency use with propagation conditions, may make it an invaluable supplement to emergency and disaster communications. Long range Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) traffic, from a Washington volcano area or a California forest fire for example, could be handled error-free across the country in a matter of minutes.

The National Traffic System could be augmented by such a network for fairly impressive public relations work. Even normal informal use could be beneficial to Amateur Radio.

Communications may soon go farther, quicker and clearer with packet.

Eau Claire A.R.C.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club will be held Tuesday, February 10 at the Parks and Recreation Building, located at Oxford and First Streets.

LUNCH COMMITTEE

Lunch committee for the February meeting is Bill, KA9GNG; Ron, KD9BM; and Phil, KA9LJK.

JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Spratt, KA9LJK. Forty-three people were present. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the Smoke Signals with "Frigid Five" corrected to "Frigid Eight" and Todd's call corrected to N9EQP.

The Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Among the guests was Dave Preuher, meteorologist from channel 18, who has ~~agreed to speak to the club on severe weather~~ - tentatively at the March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Don, K9UXP, reported that a new chip has been received for the 31/91 repeater. He also explained that interference being heard on the 24 machine is due to a borrowed wave trap having been removed and returned to the Menomoneie Club.

President Spratt, KA9LJK, reported that the HF station at Sacred Heart Hospital is ready to go on the air this Wednesday, January 14th. Listen at about 6:30 p.m. at around 3925. Phil urged others to get involved with the project as it enters this new phase.

President Spratt called for a volunteer to pursue the possibility of operating a station as part of Altoona's Centennial. John, KA9RZL, volunteered.

It was suggested the "Club Meeting" section of the Badger State Smoke Signals should have more detailed information on the Eau Claire Club. Robin, NI9R, will submit a revision to B.S.S.S.

NEW BUSINESS

President Spratt brought up the need to begin preparing for the July Hamfest. Larry, AI9N, is willing to assist but would rather not assume chief responsibility again this year. Responsibility was not delegated at this time.

A motion was passed that the new club roster be prepared as soon as possible. Those who have not paid their dues should

contact treasurer Darold, N9FLK, as soon as possible.

President Spratt asked for a volunteer to be Special Events Coordinator for 1987. Todd, N9EQP, volunteered. Sign up sheets were circulated for two up-coming events - a ski race at the Eau Claire Country Club on Saturday, January 24th, and Ice Races on Lake Altoona Saturday and Sunday, February 7th and 8th.

A motion was passed instructing the treasurer to purchase 1987 call books and supplements - both domestic and foreign - for the club.

There was a discussion of WCWTN and the absence of an NCS on some nights. President Spratt pointed out that the net is not actually the club's responsibility but urged members to support the net and its manager.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carl, N9NW, announced that VEC examinations will be held at the UW - Eau Claire Maintenance Building on Saturday, January 17th from 9 a.m. until noon. All walk-ins. Fee is \$4.35. Bring both your original ticket and a photocopy. Carl also announced the formation of a new Novice class - first class is tentatively set for Friday, January 16th. For further information on this or on CW practice sessions, contact Carl.

Bill, KA9GNG, reminded members of the Robbinsdale A.R.C. "Winter Madness" Hobby Electronics Show Saturday, February 21st.

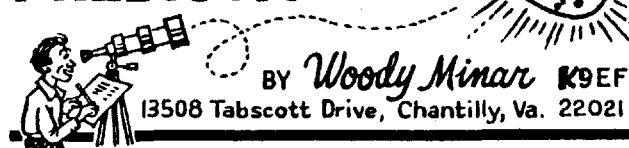
President Spratt encouraged anyone with suggestions for programs for future club meetings to contact one of the club officers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin, NI9R -- Secretary EARC

PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS



BY *Woody Minar* K9EF
13508 Tabscott Drive, Chantilly, Va. 22021

"An increase of solar activity with new cycle polarity spots in October raises the question whether solar minimum has passed," says the NOAA.

The NOAA is referring to the Observed Sunspot Number of 40 in October as compared to four in September, 17 in November, and falling back to six in December.

"The time of minimum is especially important to (consumers) because it relates to the timing and size of the next solar cycle which should peak," according to NOAA, "around 1989 to 1991."

"The cyclic increase of solar flux and solar activity causes greater heating of the earth's upper atmosphere. The resulting increase in neutral density affects the lifetime control and orbital variations of many satellites. Tradeoffs among orbit

selection, payload, and fuel loading can be made if accurate knowledge of the cycle is available in advance."

The NOAA goes on to say that "ionospheric density and therefore useable radio frequencies in the years around solar maximum also depend on the cyclic levels of extreme ultraviolet (EUV) radiation."

The high in October could be the sun playing its tomfoolery on us. However, history has shown us that the sun reaches a low, then makes a burst upward before it finally reaches the bottom or minimum in the cycle. Having said all this, the minimum in the smoothed sunspot cycle may have been reached in 1986 (perhaps circa June) or may yet occur in 1987.

Thus, choosing two most likely dates of sunspot minimum provides for a set of predictions as to the time and size of the next solar cycle. Different methods are used in making the predictions. They will be explained later.

Set your sights on these days for better-than-average propagation plus-or-minus a day (the days to be on air for best DX-ing, traffic passing, etc.):

February 15, March 1, March 15, and March 29.

And these days are the worst days for propagation within one day:

February 22, March 8, March 22, and April 5.

73, Woody

LEND A HAND TO THIS KENTUCKY HAM

- Carl Nelson, NJ6K -

John A. Thernes, WM4T, continues to do battle with the City of Lakeside Park, Kentucky, as legal fees mount in his efforts to overturn their restrictive antenna ordinance. More than \$20,000 has gone into this effort.

In the hope that he could generate some assistance from other hams, John spent an additional sum to fly to the San Diego Convention. By the last day, he had received few contributions and was understandably dejected.

Sybil Allbright, W6GIC, took note of his situation and an announcement was made at the ARRL Forum. Attendees were asked for donations. Only about \$250 was collected, so John had still to receive enough to pay his airplane fare to San Diego.

At this point, Eileen Stephen, KA6KDN, and Chris Vance, K6YNW, stepped in and started their own promotion efforts. They had already assisted John by helping to manage his booth.

As a result of the efforts of these dedicated hams, John went home with \$800 in contributions, which - although it does not alleviate all of his financial pains by any means - is of much more help than appeared to be forthcoming earlier in the day.

John says his fight is not just for him, but for hams everywhere. He still needs your help. And you can help by sending your contributions to the Northern Kentucky Tower Fund, P.O. Box 17721, Lakeside Park, KY 410127. (From Worldradio)

15th
Annual

MADISON SWAPFEST

Madison, Wis.

Sponsored by Madison Area Repeater Association - WB9AER - Madison, Wis.

DANE COUNTY EXPO CENTER FORUM BLDG.

TALK IN ON 16 - 76

Doors Open at 8 A.M. — Sun., April 5, 1987

BOOTH EXHIBITORS & FLEA MARKET SELLERS WITH 6 OR MORE TABLES AT 4 A.M.
ALL OTHER SELLERS ADMITTED AT 7:30 A.M.

ELECTRONIC EQUIP. & COMPONENTS FOR HAMS, COMPUTER HOBBYISTS & EXPERIMENTERS

DEALERS and COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST
DONUTS — ROLLS — COFFEE — POP
BEEF BAR — B — QUE'S — HOT DOGS

ADMISSION PER PERSON — \$2.50 ADVANCE — — \$3.00 DOOR (Children 12 & Under Free)
TABLES — \$5.00 ADVANCE — — \$6.00 AT DOOR — — Reserve Early — — Sell Out Every Year
TABLE RESERVATIONS DO NOT INCLUDE ADMISSION PRICE — YOU MUST BUY SEPARATE ADMISSION TICKET

WE URGE YOU TO CARPOOL AS THE COUNTY CHARGES A PARKING FEE!!!

For Information on Exhibitor Booths Contact MARA, Box 3403, Madison, WI 53704
Or Call (608) 274-5153 Answer Machine

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NAME _____ CALL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE SEND _____ TICKETS AT \$2.50 Per Person
PLEASE RESERVE _____ TABLES AT \$5.00 Each - Table Fee Does Not Include Admission Fee!
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

If there are no more tables available do you still wish to
purchase tickets YES() NO()

A.C. Outlets available to Booth Exhibitors ONLY.

Make Checks Payable to MARA — Mail to MARA, Box 3403, Madison, WI 53704

Ticket and Table Reservations Confirmed by Return Mail

RESERVATIONS NOT ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 31, 1987.

Easy To Find

NEXT DOOR TO DANE COUNTY COLISEUM

Approximately 6 miles west of Hwy.

12 & 18 and I-90 Interchange. Just

follow "Coliseum" Signs to the Dane

County Expo Center, located 1/2 mile

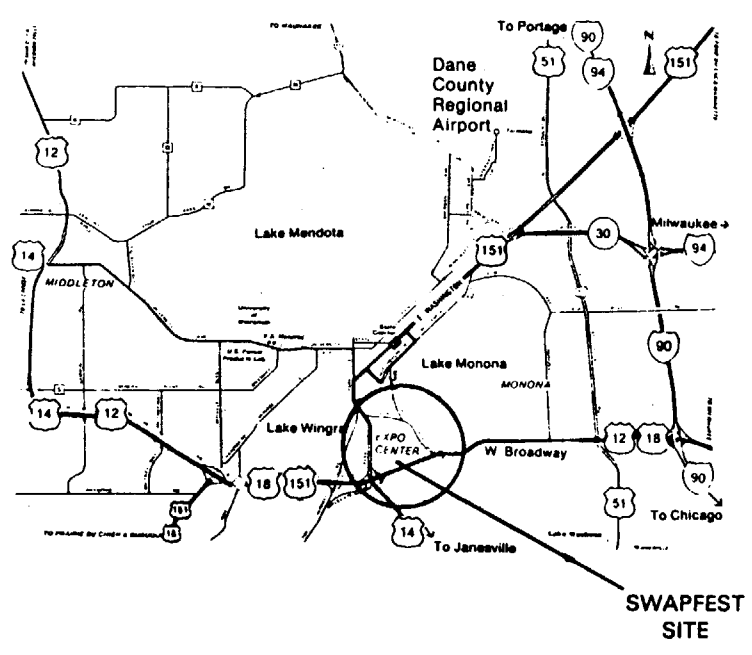
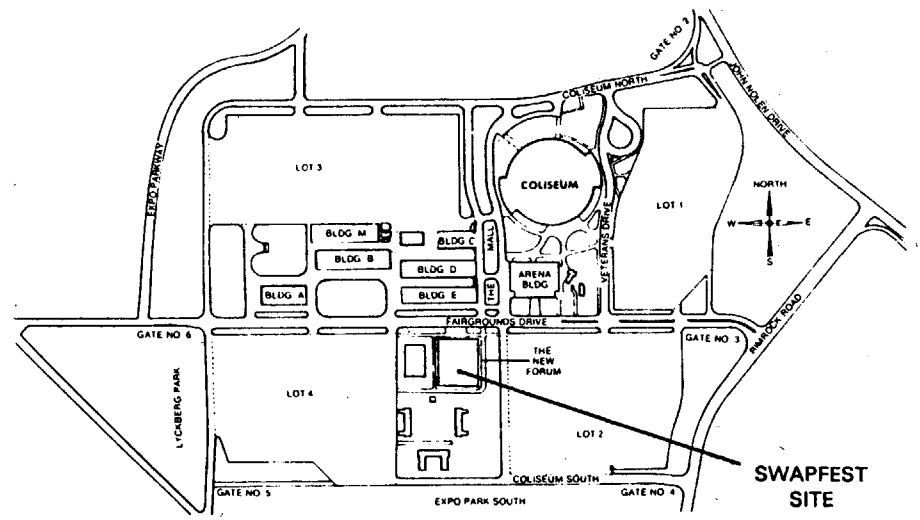
north of Hwy. 12 & 18 Beltline at

the "MC" Exit on Madison's South

Side. Talk-in on 16/76.

Amateur Radio examinations are
NOT scheduled to be given.

MADISON SWAPFEST LOCATION MAPS





EDITORIAL

BY *Jim Romelfanger* K9ZZ

Here we are, gang.. our first issue produced entirely by offset printing. We (K9EN, WB9UQT and myself) hope you like what you see in these pages.

As you will see, there are a number of pictures in this issue - and with your help, every forthcoming issue will have lots of pictures. If you have a photo (or more) you'd like to have us publish, send it to me at 301 1/2 7th Street, Baraboo WI 53913. Black and white pictures reproduce much better than color ones do, so, if you are planning to take some pictures for publication, load your camera with black and white film. Also, in most cases, we cannot return photos. We're depending on you - our readers - to help keep pictures in BSSS.

We can always use articles, too - contesting, technical, operating, humor, general interest - whatever might start in your mind and emerge on your typewriter or word processor.

With our change to offset, we will be depending even more than ever on advertising to keep all this going. Our ad rates are listed on page 5 of this issue. If you have a business which could benefit from advertising to Badger State Hams - or if you know someone whose business would benefit - please let us know. We will run both our usual business card ads and display ads. If you have questions about advertising in BSSS, please write to Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901, or call him at (608) 742-3560.

If you are reading a friend's copy of BSSS, we'd be happy to have you as a subscriber, too. We sort of accidentally put a subscription blank just below this column.. hint, hint!

We still feel that we are not getting information on some volunteer examination sessions being held in some parts of our state. If you are part of a VE team, please look over our column "The Test Point." If you don't see your upcoming session(s) listed, please tell us. You are trying to

serve, and so are we. Help us to help you serve our hobby.

The same is true if your club or group is sponsoring a swapfest or hamfest. We can't tell our readers if you don't tell us. If we know, we'll be glad to run the information - and, who knows, it might help avoid a date conflict!

Again, gang, we all hope you like what you see. Remember that we will be "playing it by ear" for a few issues, until we are comfortable with the new format.

Thanks to Joe Ash, W9ODV, for the super cartoon on page 7, inaugurating our new look, and for the masthead border on page 2!

We are interested in your comments about our new format - please let us hear from you!

See you next month!

73, Jim, K9ZZ, Editor

ATTENTION VECs

Do not issue certificates for written examination credit, as you do not yet have the authority to do so!

The FCC had previously issued a ruling that written examination credit certification issued by VECs would be implemented on December 15th, subject to approval and issuance of a modified Form 610 by the government's Office of Management and Budget. OMB has not yet approved the new form, but some VE teams unaware of the temporary hold have begun to issue such written element certifications anyhow. Such certification is not valid at this time, and acceptability of this examination credit will not be valid. Only certification permitted after an effective date given by OMB will be permitted (sic).

Just when OMB approval will come is unknown, but it is believed the holdup is tied to Novice Enhancement since any change in the structure of the Novice license will necessarily affect changes in the Form 610. This being the case, it would be financially imprudent for OMB to approve one expensive modification to the form, permit its printing in mass quantities and then obsolete it within a few for weeks for yet another revision.

It is now not expected that written examination credit will be permitted until sometime after the Report and Order on Novice Enhancement is completed and a single revised Form 610 can be designed, printed and placed into general circulation.

According to Fred Maia of the W5YI Report VEC, the FCC notified all VECs by telephone of the delay in implementing the terms of the Report and Order on PR Docket 86 - 63 on December 18, which was three days AFTER the new regulations had been scheduled to have gone into effect.

It is unknown, but highly doubtful, if those Amateurs who currently hold VE issued Written Examination Credit certification will be permitted to use them in future exam sessions, but if you currently hold such a certificate, do not dispose of it yet, as the FCC in Washington will now be forced to make a legal determination of its validity.

(From The Westlink Report)

HAMCANDID



"This is WHIT, er ah, this is W9HSY....." Here's the President of the Madison Area Repeater Association (146.16/146.76 and 147.75/147.15 in Madison), Clyde Downing, W9HSY, in one of his favorite haunts - a restaurant. Clyde is a DJ on WHIT, AM 1550 in Madison, where he works the morning shift; he also DJs a lot of teen dances in the southern Wisconsin area. The biggie MARA Swapfest is April 5; see page 9. k9zz photo.

There was a fellow in Africa who had a hobby - every time a tribal king died, he would save the king's throne. As time went on, more kings died, and the fellow's throne collection grew and grew, until he had five huts filled to capacity with thrones. Sad to say, a tornado came along and blew down all the huts and blew away all the thrones - which just goes to prove that people who live in grass houses shouldn't stow thrones. (Original author unknown.)



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☐ new ☐ renewal

Unusual Trivia Quiz

Gene Santoski, K9UTQ
1220 18th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Beginning with this issue of Badger State Smoke Signals, and every month hereafter, I will present you with questions about Amateur Radio which will be drawn from 7 categories: History, ARRL, Theory, Rules & Regulations, DX, Operating Procedures, and Equipment.

There will be 10 questions each month. Some will be quite obvious and some will require a bit of digging to get the answer. Details are yet to be worked out, but anyone who submits the largest amount of correct answers to all 120 questions will be awarded some sort of commendation or prize. Believe me, they will have earned it!

After discussing this with Ken, K9EN, and Jim, K9ZZ, they felt it was a good idea. It is hoped that this quiz will induce all readers to become more well-rounded Hams with a better background of all aspects of the hobby.

All participants are to submit answers to me (Gene, K9UTQ) by mail for checking. With that, here are the questions. GOOD LUCK! (You'll need it.)

1. What FCC form is used for Amateur licensing?
2. What does SSB stand for?
3. What does WAC stand for?
4. How many DX zones are there?
5. Who is the current General Manager of the ARRL?
6. What do the letters NPRM stand for?
7. What is Ohm's Law?
8. What is the velocity factor of RG-8/U coaxial cable?
9. How many commissioners does the FCC have?
10. What is the instrument of torture for bad operators called?

That's it for this month. Have fun. I will be looking for your answers in the mail. Send them to my address at the beginning of this column. TNX es 73, Gene.

MORE ON TESTING SCANDAL

The scandal in the All Volunteer Testing Program -- made public by the FCC last fall -- has manifested itself again with an announcement by the manager of the ARRL's VEC operation that it has taken punitive action against a group of volunteers who, it apparently feels, may have compromised the VE program in some way.

According to the December 23rd issue of *The ARRL Letter*, the ARRL/VEC has removed its accreditation from 4 of its volunteer examiners because of apparent "irregularities" at two sessions conducted by the four VEs. (The fourth member of the team acted as a liaison with the ARRL VEC office and was directly responsible for security of the test materials.) VEC staffers noticed that some exam papers had not been returned by the VE team as required.

Due to this failing and other irregularities, code and written examination results from 50 applicants have been voided and Certificates of Successful Completion recalled.

By FCC request, the ARRL/VEC has sent copies of all paperwork involved in the questionable sessions to the Personal Radio Branch.

While the *ARRL Letter* article did not indicate which testing region was involved, *Westlink* has learned that the incident is related to problems in the Long Island, New York area.

In a related matter, the pair of Dallas, Texas, Hams who refused to be reexamined after the FCC received complaints of irregularities in their test session, have been cleared of all suspicion by the FCC. It appears that the charges against the pair were an outgrowth of an ongoing repeater "war" in the Dallas area.

The Commission is now reportedly investigating those who filed the complaints to determine which, if any, laws were broken. (Thanks *The Westlink Report*.)

There was an Indian chief long ago who married three pretty young squaws. As wedding gifts, he gave one a cow hide, to another he gave a deer hide, and to the third he gave a hippopotamus hide. As time passed, all three became pregnant. The squaw on the cow hide had a son, the squaw on the deer hide had a son, and the squaw on the hippopotamus hide had twin sons. Now, all this just goes to prove that the sons of the squaw on the hide of the hippopotamus are equal to the sons of the squaws of the other two hides.



YEAH, I'M OPERATING SHOPPING CART MOBILE, BUT I THINK THE SQUASH IS SOAKING UP THE RF!

HAMCANDIDS



Above is Jim Anderson, N9AGH, Madison. Jim is EC for Dane County and DEC for southern Wisconsin. He is active on Packet Radio, and operates Packet from the mobile setup in his van shown here.

Below is Ellis Mason, KB9PO, also of Madison. Ellis can be found on 2 meters and on the HF bands. He also finds fun with his Commodore computer. k9zz pix.



FOR SALE

64K memory expansion kit for Radio Shack TRS-80 Model 4 computer. \$45.00/best offer. Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 301 1/2 7th Street, Baraboo WI 53913-2234. (608) 356-4249.

Are you reading someone else's Badger State Smoke Signals? Why not subscribe yourself? There's a blank on page 10.. Fill it out and mail it today!

WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION, LTD.

WISCONSIN NETS

NET	WNA	FREQ	UTC	CST	MANAGER
BWN	YES	3984	1200Z	0600	WD9I1D
BEN	YES	3985	1800Z	1200	KA9RII
WSBN	YES	3985	2330Z	1730	WB9ESM
WNN	YES	3723	0000Z	1800	N9DGL
WSSN	YES	3645	0030Z	1830	N9BDL
WIN-E	YES	3662	0100Z	1900	WB9ICH
WIN-L	YES	3662	0400	2200	KC9CJ
NWTN	YES	34/94	0030Z	1830	KD5VR
WCWTN	YES	31/91	0030Z	1830	KD9TT
GR.BAY	NO	72/12	0245Z	2045	WB9NRK
			THU	WED	

SECTION MANAGER'S NOTES

December 1986

Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee WI 53221

Thanks to K9EEE for capably handling the VUCC Awards Manager position for the past three years; K9RRS will be taking over the work and can help you apply for the award. Confirm 100 or more grid squares to qualify for the VHF/UHF Century Club award.

Congratulations to VUCC recipients K1TMM, W9XT, KD9IV, K9RRS and KA9SPD on 6 meters; K9VGE and W9YCV on 2 meters; and W9UB both 2 and 6 meters.

March 7th at 8 a.m., Milwaukee School of Engineering RC Swapfest, southwest corner of Milwaukee and Juneau Streets; N9EOZ for information.

March 14th, Fox Cities ARC Swapfest, Kaukauna High School, exit Hwy 55 south off Hwy 41 to Main Street; exams available, NB9J.

The 1987 Wisconsin QSO Party starts at noon on March 15th, check QST Contest Corral or ask other Amateurs for details. Get on the air and meet other Wisconsin Amateurs, give the Wisconsin QSO Party a try.

March 22nd, Tri-County ARC Hamfest, 8 a.m., Jefferson County Fairgrounds, walk-in exams begin 9 a.m. at WCTI, 800 Main Street, Pewaukee, with WD9JKZ.

New officers ManCoRad RC: Pres. KA9UPM; V. Pres. WB9ESM; Sec. N9FVZ; Treas. N9BCX.

The Badger State Smoke Signals newsletter which promotes Wisconsin Amateur Radio now has a new print format. BSSS does us all a service by publishing an exam list, club meeting schedule and all the news. Contact K9ZZ, K9EN or WB9UQT for information on how you can subscribe.

The Ozaukee RC new Newsletter Editor is W9WQ; former editor KA9DDN will be putting more time into other club activities.

Sorry to report Silent Key W9IQW.

Let me know your news.

CAND REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1986 X 1300
MESSAGES IN 31 SESSIONS X D9RN REPRESENTED 100
PERCENT X WISCONSIN STATIONS N9BGE W9ODV AND
KA9RII 73 - JERRY W5KLV NM.

CYCLE 4 REPORT 368 QNI 720 QTC 1232 QTR IN
62 SESSIONS X WISCONSIN PARTICIPATION 90 PERCENT
N9AUG W9CBE KC9CJ W9CXY W9DND K9GDF K9UTQ W9YCV -
PEGGY W9JUJ NM.

TRAFFIC TOPIX

Gene Santoski, K9UTQ
Section Traffic Mgr.
1220 18th Street So.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

First of all, I want to take this opportunity to wish all readers of this column a most happy, healthy and prosperous 1987. I would also like to ask you to make a New Year's Resolution to try to handle more traffic than you did last year and to get more amateurs interested and involved in traffic handling.

I don't have all the stats in for 1986 with regard to the nets but as soon as they are compiled, all NMs will receive a copy along with a set of graphs for their respective nets. However, all indications are that we did quite well again last year. We'll just have to wait and see.

I also want to thank each and every one of you for the fine job you have done this past year. We do have to keep in mind, however, that there is always room for improvement. When you cease trying for improvement, so also you cease improving. We also have to keep in mind that most traffic handled is of a third party nature and in that light, we are exposing ourselves to the public. To retain our reputation as top communicators, we have to present ourselves in the best way we can when handling traffic - particularly with regard to our delivery procedures. Delivery of a message is in direct contact with the public. The same for message originations. So we have to continue to strive for the best image we can present when originating or delivering traffic for third parties.

Now, for those of you who get QST magazine (those who don't should be boiled in transformer oil!) I want to call your attention to the excellent article on page 72 of the January issue. It deals with making a commitment to the public which, of course, is your responsibility and duty as a licensed radio amateur. I feel that there is a good lesson to be learned by reading this article. If you don't get QST, find someone who does and borrow it as this article is must reading for ALL radio amateurs. There are many ways that we can serve the public with amateur radio but the main thing is that WE DO! It is the only reason we have the privilege of enjoying this wonderful hobby. I seriously believe if it were not for our public service record, we would not have amateur radio.

Chuck Clark, K4ZN has a regular traffic column in Worldradio with excellent ideas and do's and don'ts about traffic handling. His article in the December issue is no exception. I realize that most of you do not get Worldradio so I am going to take the liberty of quoting some excerpts from this fine article which deals with getting fills in messages. Many of us just plain do not know how to properly obtain fills when copying traffic.

Chuck states that "Ideally there should be no need for fills. The sending station would transmit at the proper speed, send perfect code or enunciate properly, there would be no noise, telephones wouldn't ring, etc. In the real world it just doesn't work that way. Hence the need for fills."

Chuck goes on to say "In general, there are two ways to get a fill, depending on the equipment used by the sending station. If that equipment is designed for break-in operation, the receiving operator can cause the transmitting operator to stop sending whenever anything is missed. In that way, time can be saved, and the transmitting operator can be spared sending the message when noise makes reception impossible."

Break-in is more commonly used on CW, although more phone stations than CW stations are equipped for it. CW stations so equipped should begin a message with QSK to advise the receiving operator that it is available. If you need a fill, just send a few dits or dahs or hold your key down or send BK to interrupt transmission, then ask for what you need.

If you use push-to-talk on phone, just take your finger off the mike button during pauses. If you operate VOX, set the delay short enough so that you can listen during pauses. Unless the receiving operator is copying you in shorthand or using a recorder, you have to pause anyway to give time to write, so listen for a "break" during those pauses.

The other way to get a fill is to ask for it after the message has been transmitted.

On CW, several abbreviations are in common use: AB, all before; AA, all after; BN...AND, between...and...; WB, word before; WA, word after. Or just spell it out. On voice just simply ask what you need.

A few cautions when asking for fills. Don't sent R, don't say "Roger" until you have the message 100% correct. If you do, you may find yourself unable to get a needed fill, as the transmitting station might not listen for your request - you have already acknowledged receipt!

The bottom line is DON'T GUESS! That's the way garbles find their way into messages.

Just a final thought that I want to leave you with. If you would like to have a presentation on traffic handling and net operations at your club meeting, please let me know and I will get you in contact with one of the Traffic Training Assistants that we have around the state. Also, we do need more ITAs particularly in the Superior, LaCrosse, Fond du Lac and Green Bay areas. If you live in those areas and are experience in all aspects of traffic handling, please let me know and I will provide you with a ITA Handbook to be used as a guide to such presentations.

Thanks very much and CU on the nets.

73, Gene, K9UTQ

GLASS ARM REPORT

(Wisconsin Slow Speed Net)

 Lee G. Andreas, N9BDL
 Net Manager
 Route 1, 7600 Highway D East
 Lake Tomahawk WI 54539

A not-too-busy Christmas season has just concluded. The figures for the last quarter of 1986 on WSSN are:

QNI	QTC	QSP	QTR
542	123	96	1456

There has been some concern voiced on the nets about the drop in traffic compared to past years. Some attribute it to the lack of interest in traffic handling. Others are blaming the drop in statistics to the messages being routed by other than traditional means, namely Packet Radio. This is a concern of Rick Williams, KV9U, a former delegate of the WSSN.

Packet Radio is, now, increasing the efficiency with which the messages are being delivered. The question is when will the break-even point between increased efficiency and the deterioration of the present National Traffic System occur? What will then happen to traffic nets as we know them now? Would such a change be beneficial to overall message handling? How about the camaraderie of our present CW, SSB and FM nets? Should the WNA and the ARRL be showing more concern over this development?

These are questions that I cannot answer. If you are concerned about them, join us in the next on-air meeting of the WNA in March, or plan to attend the summer meeting. Watch BSSS for details about these meetings.

There are a few changes since the last Glassarm Report. Monday night NCS duties are now being shared by W9NGP, Ed, and KA9OBP, Paul.

Bill, NF9A, has experienced some severe health problems and has asked to be relieved of Tuesday NCS duties. In a note to me he stated the following: "...I have met many and made many new friends in the radio spectrum and mostly on the WSSN. Please thank them all for their participation in Tues. evening and encourage them to support WSSN, for its cause." Bill is resting at home after a quick trip to a Milwaukee medical facility and is doing well. We all look forward to his rejoining the net.

Robin, NI9R, is the newest addition to the WSSN NCS crew. She is now handling the Tuesday evening net.

At the December meeting of our local club, I was asked a simple question that really got me to thinking. "How does one go about checking into a CW traffic net?" Then, just a few days ago, while running the Novice Net, I had a checkin from Edmond, Oklahoma. After welcoming the OM to the net, he came back with "What is a traffic net?" I could tell by his call that he was recently licensed. That was not his fault, but rather mine.

Why should either one of those questions have been asked? It boils down to a matter of public relations on the part of the net managers, as well as our appointed and elected section staff. Each net member, whether an NCS, regular

or just occasional checkin, should do a little more telling to "other Hams" about the nets. Invite those "other Hams" to join our nets, or in the case of a recently licensed Ham, invite them over to our shack and let them observe the net a few times and then let them check in on our rigs.

We can refer to publications of the ARRL on traffic handling. This usually does not help because the average Ham does not have those publications. Some new Hams may be hesitant about using someone else's rig; invite yourself over to their shack and go through the process with them on their rig. Also, leave a copy of the net schedules with time and frequency, and probably most important, a copy of the Q signals and what they mean. Don't forget to include the QN signals for CW nets. Actually, you should stress that Q signals are for CW nets only. A few old timers will get steamed over that thought, so don't belabor the point. We need to turn Hams on to traffic handling - not turn them off.

I have not seen in these pages (recently) the procedure for checking into a CW net. So, here it is, as requested at the Northwoods Amateur Radio Club December meeting:

Step 1. Listen a few times before taking the plunge. This will give you a feel for how things in general are run.

Step 2. Zero beat your transceiver or transmitter with the signal of the net control station (NCS). If you are not on the same frequency as the NCS, you may not be heard. Sometimes the NCS must use a filter to knock out the interference. If your rig has RIT (receiver incremental tuning), TURN IT OFF.

Step 3. After the NCS has finished calling up the net with the preamble (a fancy name for the stuff that identifies the net etc.), listen for the NCS to invite checkins, e.g.: WSSN WSSN DE N9BDL QNI K. That means, in a shorthand sort of way, Wisconsin Slow Speed Net this is N9BDL Net stations check in. The K means back to you.

Step 4. If you hear no other stations checking in, send a letter of the alphabet (your signature). The NCS will recognize you and invite you to check in by sending back your letter (signature). This means the NCS is ready to accept your checkin and your checkin only. Occasionally, more than one station sends at one time; wait for your signature.

Step 5. After the NCS acknowledges your signature, send the call of the NCS, followed by yours, and the statement of whether or not you have traffic. For example: N9BDL DE KA9XYZ QRU K. The QRU means you have no traffic. If you have a message, then use the letters QTC followed by the destination of the message and the number of messages to that destination, e.g.: N9BDL DE KA9XYZ QTC MADISON 1.

Step 6. Be prepared to give your name and location to the NCS the first time or two you QNI (check in) with that NCS. There may be a different NCS each night of the week. Some stations will greet the NCS by the first name as part of their QNI procedure and you may wish to do so too: N9BDL DE KA9XYZ QRU GE LEE K. Some stations will include a QNI in their checkin: N9BDL DE KA9XYZ QNI QRU etc. The QNI in that case is not needed because that is what you are doing.

Step 7. If you are going to send any traffic or pick up a message for a person in your locale (QSP - which means to relay), the NCS will direct you and the other station to go up or down a certain number of KHz. If you were told to UP 3, it means you and the other station should go up 3 KHz to pass the traffic. The receiving station usually calls the station sending the traffic. First the receiving station will send a QRL? (is the frequency busy?). If nothing is heard, the sender of the message is called. Then you will hear something like this: KA9XYZ DE N9BDL QRV (QRV means ready to copy). Follow a few stations as they pass some messages so you can get an idea of what is going on.

Step 8. Don't leave the net until the NCS closes the net (QNF) or excuses you or the rest (QNX).

Step 9. Don't panic. The rest of the stations are not waiting for you to goof up so they can all laugh. They have done and do their share of goofing up (me included). The NCS and other stations on the net are more than willing to help you.

Step 10. Join us on the CW nets often.

I had better quit before some of the other net managers refer to this as the Blowhard Report. I hope to see a few more of you on one or all four of the WNA CW nets.

73, Lee, N9BDL, NM

WISCONSIN INTRASTATE NET - EARLY (WIN/E)

 Larry Guthu, WB9ICH
 Net Manager
 706 West Jennings
 New London WI 54961

Belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, gang. I hope that your new year has started off better than on the nets. As most of you know, for the past month or so, we've been plagued by long skip conditions which make it very hard to pass traffic. Don't despair; hang in there and conditions will eventually even out.

Well, for the past year the net has done rather well, considering that traffic on the whole is down. One bright spot was seen in March with a peak in checkins, but that has since fallen and things have evened out. On the average, we are holding about the same as the past couple of years.

I think we should resolve for 1987 to make it a banner year on WIN in all aspects, and of course, to see more people get into CW traffic handling. If you like CW and like traffic, come on down to 3.662 KHz at 7:00 p.m. local time and check us out. You may just get hooked and get the fever.

Our top 5 check-ins for the quarter are as follows:

1. W9NGP and N9BDL - 89
2. W9YCV - 75
3. W9CBE - 59
4. WB9ICH - 57
5. W9CXY - 51

(continued on page 4)

THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO ASSOCIATION
(WAPR)
P.O. Box 436
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012-0436

From the Chairman's Keyboard

Well gang, if you didn't attend the WAPR meeting on January 10th at the West Allis Radio Club's swapfest you missed alot. I'm sure most of you have heard what happened during the July meeting at the South Milwaukee swapfest....utter chaos broke loose and things seemed to unravel at the seams. Well, in the interim it seems that nothing was accomplished. The Chairman resigned, others were too busy or no longer interested in running the organization or just didn't care anymore. It took a little prodding, namely by the group's treasurer, Gary Gilbertson - WB9SDA, but I took the hint from him and tried to see if something could be done to salvage a good idea.

On January 3, 1987, a group of interested packeteers got together at JJ's Resturant in Menomonee Falls and talked things out. In attendance were WD9DHI, AG9V, WB9TYI, WA9KEC, WA9VNJ, WD9GWZ and WA9POV. Not present at the meeting, but, comments were solicited via phone calls from WB9RW, WB9YLR, WA4COY, WB9SDA, and KB9HK. Other board members were not available. The consensus of the meeting - WAPR definitely does have a place in packet radio in Wisconsin, but what it lacks is leadership, direction and a plan. The group developed groundwork for all of the above, agreeing to dedicate energies, time and resources to rebuilding WAPR and making it work. A plan was laid out, proposed By-laws written and information readied for a general meeting at the Waukesha swapfest on January 10.

That brings us to the swapfest and what happened there.

I opened the meeting and gave everyone present a little background on the organization and some possible reasons why it has accomplished nothing in the last 6 months. I then presented the plan we had developed on January 3. The total emphasis is contained in the By-Laws that were adopted at the meeting. These are available on all the known PBBS in the state or from the organization at our new Cedarburg mailing address.

The main purpose of WAPR is to serve in an advisory and educational capacity. It will own no equipment, no node controllers, no digipeaters...nothing, save for educational and operational materials. WAPR will devote it's time and energies to developing plans, whether they be frequency plans, network plans or whatever is dictated by the state-of-the-art. Also, the group will be developing an educational plan on packet radio. There are many subjects involved and it will take a lot of work, but we feel that the education level of packeteers is not what it should be (too many appliance operators).

Dues have been reduced...dues used to be \$10.00 per year, they are now \$7.00 per year and if you join now you will be paid thru the fiscal year of 1987-1988, that means you'll be a member and receive Badger State Smoke Signals thru June 30, 1988..a pretty good deal if you ask me.

There was also an election of officers and directors willing to be aggressive about their duties.

Your new board consists of:

Chairman.....Gregg Lengling, WD9DHI
Vice Chairman.....Jon Nondahl, WD9GWZ
Secretary.....Dave Knaus, WA9POV
Treasurer.....Roy Hawkins, WA9KEC

Board Directors-At-Large:

John Ackermann, AG9V
Dan Bolander, WB9TYI
Steve Reyer, WA9VNJ

Now, all of these fellows have expressed a desire to work for you, so lend them some help when they ask for it and alot will be accomplished. As we went into the meeting on Saturday, WAPR consisted of 18 members, when we emerged from the meeting there were 54 members and I've watched another 5 or so sign up in the following 2 days. I guess that means we're growing and everyone is willing to invest themselves and their time into this organization.

Next Month: The first steps to making the dream come true.

73's...Gregg Lengling, WD9DHI, WAPR Chairman



The Hitchhiker's Guide to Packet BBS Stations

John - AG9V ... Radio Free Suamico.

Packet bulletin board stations (PBBS) are one of the most talked about aspects of packet radio -- and not all the talk is favorable! I run a PBBS in Green Bay, and have written this to help explain what a PBBS is, how it does its magic, and how you, as a user, can help the system run smoothly.

The PBBS is like most other bulletin boards in that it has two main functions: it acts as a mailbox for its users, so they can leave messages for others and read mail of general interest, and it serves as a place where longer pieces of information, in the form of disk files, can be uploaded and downloaded.

The packet BBS system, though, has one function that most landline BBSs can't touch. If the PBBS uses software compatible with that written by WORLI, messages can be left on one bulletin board and automatically forwarded to another PBBS -- whether across town or across the continent. It's this autoforwarding capability that gives the PBBS its great potential.

Using a PBBS is pretty simple. All you have to do is connect to the station as you would to any other packet INC. You will be greeted by a menu that's probably rather incomprehensible -- full of single letters with no clues as to their meaning. It's not that bad, though, because there are relatively few commands that you need to use regularly. If you want help, you can get a more complete description of the commands by typing the letter X and <return> at the command prompt (a > sign).

I won't go into all the details about how the commands work in this article. Most PBBS

stations have a file called BBS.DOC or HELP.DOC which you can download (download a file by typing the letter D and the filename at the prompt -- for example, D BBS.DOC <return>), and that file will tell you all about the command syntax.

There are some things that the pbbs probably won't tell you, however. I hope to cover the important tricks of the trade in the next few paragraphs.

First, learn when to use a PBBS and when not to. You will not get a good reputation on the air if you download a 32 kilobyte file during peak evening hours when a lot of other stations are active on the frequency. Moving lots of data, particularly if you're doing it through several digipeaters, can take up a very large percentage of the frequency's capacity -- in other words, you're tying things up so other folks have trouble carrying on their conversations. Lengthy PBBS sessions are best during non-peak times, such as weekdays (if you have that luxury), late nights, or early mornings. There are bulletin board stations that will lock you out forever if you make a habit of downloading during peak hours, so beware!

You should also be aware of the quality of the path between you and the PBBS. If you have a marginal path through several digipeaters, the numerous repeats that will probably be required will do their own job of messing up the channel. If there's a file on a distant PBBS that you want to obtain, leave a message with the sysop on the local station to obtain the file for you. He can get it during non-peak hours and you can download it from him.

The next important rule is a simple one -- don't enter a command a second time if you don't get a response!!! Due to the error correcting nature of packet radio, the command you have entered will either get there correctly or a disconnect will be forced when the maximum number of retries have elapsed. If you repeat a command, all that will happen is that the command will be repeated -- and you can feel pretty foolish watching a huge file download for the second or third time! Be patient...

When you post mail on the PBBS, one option you should consider is specifying a message type. The default type is blank, which yields a plain old message, but P, B, D, I and others are available. A private message (P) can only be read by you, the sysop, and the addressee. No one else will see it listed when they list messages. Of course, anyone monitoring the frequency can watch it being sent or read, so don't get carried away! A message of type B is a bulletin. If you address a message to all, it should be type B. Similarly, AG9V uses message type D to indicate DX info messages (such messages are addressed to DX). Type I makes sense for use with NTS traffic.

The advantage of the private message is obvious.

The other message types simply make it possible for a user to be selective in listing messages -- if he wants to see bulletins, he doesn't have to wade through a bunch of listings for private traffic. The trick is using the message type as a qualifier for the list command. For example, typing LB will list only bulletins, while LD will list only DX messages.

The autoforwarding capability is one of the most fascinating features of the WORLI BBS software (and its clones). It's very simple to use. If you know a distant station to whom you want to

WAPR (continued from page 14)

THE TEST POINT (continued from page 3)

MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS

Oh what the heck -- items of interest:

send traffic is on the forwarding list of your local PBBS, all you have to do is leave a message addressed to the call of that station and it will automatically be forwarded to the proper PBBS. For example, AG9V maintains a forwarding list for WA9KEC. N9ZZ is on that list. Any traffic sent to N9ZZ on the AG9V PBBS will automatically be forwarded to WA9KEC and posted there.

Alternatively, you can specify that a message should be forwarded to a specific bulletin board using the @ PBBS function -- by addressing the message to, for example, N9ZZ @ WA9KEC. This will override any forwarding information maintained by the host PBBS. The only problem is that you have to be sure the host PBBS can connect to the PBBS you specify. A quick message to the sysop should give you the answer.

Sometimes you may wish to forward a message to a very distant station -- like one in California. That can also be done. Certain PBBS stations have HF ports and connect with distant bulletin boards that way. Here, you should use the @ BBS command to leave the call of the distant PBBS, but also leave a message to the sysop indicating that the message should be forwarded by HF. The distant PBBS has to be included in the forwarding file for a local bulletin board with HF capability for this to work, and the sysop will be able to arrange the proper routing. If there are several stations that you might want to send mail to regularly, the sysop can set this up once and then you will be able to leave such messages at will.

At some PBBS stations you can download the forwarding file (called FWD.TNC), while at others that file isn't available. At AG9V the file is available for downloading, and an examination of this file will show the places where messages can go. Remember that the strange out-of-area call signs that you may see listed for some stations are probably other PBBSs to which forwarding is available on HF. The individual calls of stations at those distant PBBSs won't be shown.

To answer one common criticism of the auto-forwarding system, the sysop can specify the hours during which forwarding to specific stations may occur (forwarding occurs once an hour at a time set by the sysop). Most of the Wisconsin PBBS stations do not forward during peak hours of 1700 - 0100 local time.

Remember, my TNC is on 24 hours for accepting articles or news items for "The Wisconsin Packeteer". Don't be shy!

Steve - WB9ZRE v WA9SQU-2 or KD9NV or K9DHR or KA9JDE or WB9SDA-1

Look for the article on Packet Radio by Rich Regent, K9GDF, elsewhere in this issue of BS55

If you wish to join WAPR, use the application blank on the right and/or send a letter to:

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO ASSOCIATION (WAPR)
P.O. Box 436
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012-0436

St. Luke's School, 1005 Summit Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota.

North Memorial Medical Center, 3300 Oakdale Ave. N., Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Amateur Fair '87 Hamfest, St. Paul, Minnesota.

St. Cloud, Minn., Annual Hamfest.

Handi-Hams Camp Courage, Annandale, Minnesota.

Richfield, Minnesota, Hamfest Minnesota and Computer Expo.

(ed note.) Thanks to Marv Mahre, W0MGI for the Minnesota information. If you are interested in any of the Minnesota tests, we suggest that you save the above information as we may not be able to have the complete list in every issue of Smoke Signals.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules.

Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Include contact address and other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN or K9ZZ at the address shown on page 2.

=====

DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD ONE, RIGHT?

(From Ham Gab, Oak Lawn, IL, KA9HDB, Ed. - via ARNS)

"OCTOTHORPE" is dictionaryese for the pound sign or (#), which we all know is inscribed on the bottom right hand button of touchtone pads... What would you have pressed not knowing this?

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs Ltd.

(Stevens Point)

WATTS SNOO

Congratulation to N9GEP, Gene Hamus who has his General Class License and a new call having upgraded from Novice Class, KA9VMJ, and to WB9MAX, Ted Salvin who was recently installed as Worshipful Master of Evergreen Lodge 93 F. and A.M.

Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club

THE FEEDLINE

Art, W9ZM is the first non-YASME member to receive the "YASME Award". This very distinctive award is too easy to get. The contacts for this award must be from a YASME DXpedition, so it would take quite a few years to get enough contacts. Congratulations Art, you deserve it, and it is another

Green Fox Amateur Radio Club (Green Lake)

FOXTALES

Clarence, WA9YCV, Markesan's former most-eligible bachelor, reported that he and his bride, Evelyn, would be leaving for a winter honeymoon in Arizona. An antenna raising party will be held at the new homestead in the Spring and all are invited to attend.

Kettle Moraine Radio Association

KETTLE DRUMS

Congratulations to Les Hyland, KA9USV on Passing his General. Welcome to the rat race on 20 meters.

Congratulations also to Joe Lindsay III, KA9RFR, for making the semifinals in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club,

NEWSLETTER

Tom Witt, KA9VIA received the monthly activity award, and Christ Bauer, W9RF received the HAM-OF-THE-YEAR award.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ CALL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

HOME PBBS _____ MONITOR FREQ _____

HOURS OF PACKET OPERATION: DAY _____ NITE _____ 24-HR _____

STATION: POWER _____ ANT GAIN _____ HEIGHT _____

TNC _____ COMPUTER _____

STATION CAPABILITIES: HF _____ 2M _____ 220 _____ 440 _____

I OPERATE A: DIGIPEATER _____ PACKET BBS _____

PRIMARY INTEREST IN PACKET _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
ASSOCIATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

DUES: \$7.00/YEAR

RETURN THIS FORM WITH DUES TO: WAPR, P. O. BOX 436, CEDARBURG, WI 53012-0436



WISCONSIN CHAPTER 55

Wisconsin Chapter 55 invites all Wisconsin Radio Amateurs who were licensed 25 or more years ago (it is not necessary to have been licensed the entire 25 years) to join QCWA and the Wisconsin Chapter.

The next meeting will be held at Fisher's Supper Club, Lake Delton on Saturday, June 6, 1987. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome to attend these meetings. For more info, contact Les Peterson, W9YCV, chapter secretary (9741 W. Howard Ave., Greenfield WI 53228), or any current member.

In this photo by K9HJL, Gordy Fedder, W9YFW (right), receives his QCWA Golden Anniversary Certificate from Chapter Chairman Travis Baird, W9VQD, at the October 1986 meeting.



 <p>THE ORIGINAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST</p> <p>WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER HIGHWAYS F & FT WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN</p> <p>WAUWATONIA SWAPFEST P.O. Box 1072 MILLWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53001</p>	<p>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING April 5, 1987</p> <h2>MADISON SWAPFEST</h2> <p>DANE COUNTY EXPO CENTER FORUM BUILDING</p> <p>Sponsored By MARA WB9AER Box 3403 - Madison, Wis. 53704</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB</p> <h2>SWAPFEST</h2> <p>July 18, 1987 (Held every July)</p> <p>American Legion Park Shepard Ave. Oak Creek, WI</p> <p>South Milwaukee ARC P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172</p>
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